News Briefs

Haunted house

A security forces haunted house begins at 6 p.m. Monday to Thursday at 229 State Loop in State Village. Admission is \$2 for children and \$3 for adults, Call Ext. 7128.

Promotion ceremony

The monthly enlisted promotion ceremony is at 8 a.m. Wednesday at the Columbus Club. Practice for all promotees is at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the club. Call Ext. 7294.

Main road construction

Mississippi Department of Transportation will pave Hwy. 786, the access road from Hwy. 45 to the Main Gate, beginning Nov. 4. Work is scheduled for one week, weather permitting, and runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Use of the South Gate is encouraged, but the Main Gate will remain open. Call Ext.

Operations security

People are asked to maintain operations

- ☐ Releasing information only to individuals with a need to know
- ☐ Controlling personnel rosters
- ☐ Releasing information on unit readiness or capability to those with a need to know. Call Ext. 7016.

AF political policy

Department of Defense people acting in official capacities may not engage in activities that associate DOD with any partisan political campaign or election, candidate, cause or issue. Political activity by armed forces people continues to be governed by DOD Directive 1344.10, Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces on Active

Mission Report

As of Wednesday

T-1A T-37 Goal: 2.046.0 hrs. Goal: 2,496 Flown: 1.897.9 hrs. Flown: 2,204 T-38A **T-38C** Goal: 1,201 Goal: 155 Flown: 969 Flown: 105



Staff Sgt. Brent Ochs, 14th Medical Operations Squadron aerospace physiology administration NCOIC, hangs a Halloween flag.

Volunteers keep trick-or-treaters safe

2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore Public affairs

Continuing its tradition of Halloween safety for more than five years, Columbus AFB Pumpkin Patrol will monitor neighborhoods from 5:30 until an emergency. Volunteers may be called 8:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Volunteers scatter throughout different housing areas to help ensure parents and children can enjoy the evening without worrying about mischief-makers, said Master Sgt. Patrick Bell, 14th Security Forces Squadron.

"Pumpkin patrol is an important program because, as parents and concerned citizens, we need to do everything in our

power to protect our children," Bell said. "I want them to have a fun time, but most importantly, a safe time."

Pumpkin patrol volunteers operate in pairs and are loaned a security forces radio to contact the squadron in case of on to assist in efforts ranging from finding lost children to inspecting candy.

areas near their homes or where they will take their own children to trick-or-

Pumpkin patrol needs about 20 additional volunteers for the evening, and they must be at least 16 years old.

To volunteer, call Bell at Ext. 7073.

Trick-or-treating takes place from 6 until 8 p.m. Families who prefer not to receive trick-or-treaters should keep their porch lights off during the desig-

As an alternative to traditional Halloween festivities, the chapel offers a "Hallelujah Luau." The event takes place at the chapel annex from 6 until 8 Volunteers may request to patrol the p.m. on Thursday. Everyone is invited to attend and costumes are encouraged. Activities include a hula-hoop contest, limbo contest, carnival games and cakewalk where participants receive candy and prizes.

> For more information, call Joy Garrison at 434-6684 or Ext. 2500.

48th Fighter Squadron pilots soar again

2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett Public affairs

Two World War II pilots with the 48th Fighter Squadron got a chance to fly again Tuesday.

The flights kicked off the 48th Reunion, uniting fliers and maintainers from the WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm eras with the 48th Flying Training Squadron members.

The 48th Flying Training Squadron flew Tom Yarwood, 48th

Squadron Association president, and Joe Onesty, 48th SA secretary and treasurer, on a formation flight in two T-1A

"Watching them [48th FTS pilots] in action makes me envious," Yarwood said. "I would give my right arm to fly again."

The former pilots were passengers to today's pilots flying an aerial refueling and airdrop-training mission.

See 48th, Page 3

NEWS

AF announces TSP open season

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change current Thrift Savings Plan accounts during the "open season" through Dec. 31.

"TSP is an easy, long-term retirement savings plan that everyone should consider," said Maj. Alessandra Stokstad, Air Force Personnel Center contact center chief. Current account holders might be interested, too, in transferring money from one fund to another. The TSP folks are set up to handle that.

"Either way, it's a great supplement to retirement plans," Stokstad said. "It's important to note that TSP is not limited to investing in stocks. People can choose safer government securities as well."

"Employees already contributing to the TSP are encouraged to review their TSP plan and account balances," said Janet Thomas of the center's civilian benefits and entitlements service team, "as the open season period is the best time to open an account or make changes to an existing one."

TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement.

"You can take out loans and make withdrawals from your TSP account," Thomas said. "And you can keep your account even if you leave the service."

Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck "so you never have to think about it," Stokstad said. "That makes it easy to 'pay yourself first' while investing what you deem appropriate."

The five TSP funds are: the Government Securities Investment, or G. Fund, the Common Stock Index Investment, or C, Fund, the Fixed Income Index Investment, or F, Fund, the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment, or S, Fund and the International Stock Index Investment, or I, Fund.

"As with any retirement account, the sooner you begin contributing, the better," Stokstad said.

Account changes made on or before Nov. 30 will take effect Dec. 1 for both military and civilian people. Changes made after Dec. 1 will become effective in the following pay period for civilians and the following month for military.

"I believe that TSP is a great investment for anyone worried about being able to survive off of their retirement income," said Staff Sgt. Jocelyn Bennett, 14th Comptroller Flight customer service NCOIC. "This will ensure that you will have extra support for your family and yourselves."

Some of the specifics of the program for servicemembers include:

- ☐ Beginning in December military members can contribute up to 8 percent of their base pay. Airmen can also invest all or part of their bonuses or special pay. But their total yearly tax-deferred investment cannot exceed \$12,000.
- ☐ Those serving in tax-free combat zones are allowed up to \$40,000 in annual contributions. Specifics of the program for civilians include:
- ☐ Contribution limits are based on the employee's retirement system. For the current open season, the following contribution rates apply:
- ☐ Federal Employees' Retirement System employees may contribute up to 13 percent of basic pay each pay period. Once eligible, the government provides matching funds of up to 4 percent as well as an automatic 1 percent each pay period whether the employee contributes or not, making the government's contribution 5 percent. Employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System may contribute up to 8 percent of basic pay, but do not receive any matching
- ☐ The percentage that FERS and CSRS employees may contribute will increase by one point each year through 2005, when they will be restricted only by the Internal Revenue Code's annual limit, \$12,000 in 2003, said Thomas.

To enroll or make any changes on your TSP account, or to get information on TSP, you can go online to the TSP website at www.tsp.gov, or through Employee/Member Self Service at www.dfas.mil/ emss/. For TSP related investment questions, people can call the family support center. People can come to the finance office to obtain and turn-in TSP forms, or for assistance with the forms, if they are unable to sign up through the Website. (Courtesy of AF News)

Military people are all recruiters

Each member in the Air Force is an "ambassador in blue" in the local community. Each person can make a difference in the decision for someone to join the Air Force. Here are some tips on how people can help the recruiting effort.

- ☐ Talk to young people in grocery store checkout lines, dry cleaners or while shopping. ☐ Talk about what the Air Force has done for you and the successes you have had
- ☐ Take advantage of the Recruiter Assistance Program. Each member of the Air Force is authorized a permissive TDY home for up to 12 days to perform recruiting duties with the local recruiter.
- ☐ Work with the public affairs office and support base tours for local recruiters. Get local high school guidance counselors and principals involved with base activities
- ☐ Invite locals school leaders and counselors to base orientations and events like air
- ☐ Remember to keep your public affairs office informed of these activities. Call public affairs at Ext. 7065.



DOD honors anti-drug week

WASHINGTON — Andre Hollis said he is "continually impressed" by the way American military and civilian personnel around the world give back to their communities.

Hollis, deputy assistant defense secretary for counternarcotics, told the audience at the Monday Red Ribbon Week Observance in the Pentagon that thousands of U.S. personnel dedicate hundreds of thousands of hours each year to help kids stay away from drugs.

During the opening ceremony, Miss USA, Shauntay Hinton, from the District of Columbia, delivered remarks. Hinton is a Starkville High School graduate.

Red Ribbon Week is held annually to spotlight efforts to keep America drug free. The week is an outgrowth of a tribute to the kidnapping and murder of Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Enrique Camarena in 1985. In 1990, the Defense Department joined the observance and began a yearly award to recognize outstanding anti-drug programs developed by the services, the National Guard and the defense agencies. (Courtesy of DefenseLink News)

Warren airman earns \$10K

F.E. WARREN AFB, Wyo. — A little bit of epoxy sealed Tech. Sgt. Toby Taylor's chances for \$10,000.

Taylor, training NCO of the 90th Maintenance Operations Squadron electrical-mechanical technician team, was recently presented with a \$10,000 check from the Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program.

The IDEA program gives cash rewards to all Air Force military and Air Force federal civilian employees for sharing their ideas on how to save the Air Force money. IDEA cash rewards range from \$200 to \$10,000 depending on the calculated tangible savings.

Taylor's money-saving idea came to mind 18 months ago when he discovered the Air Force was condemning and replacing launch facility batteries that had cracks in the top greater than one-half inch

"At that time, our shop was at minimal manning," said Taylor. "We had a hard time getting enough bodies together to dispatch and replace these condemned batteries.'

"The reason I submitted the change was to alleviate some of the workload for my guys," said Taylor. "The check was a nice bonus. I've submitted many IDEA suggestions over the years. Although some of my past IDEAs were disapproved, it didn't discourage me from trying again. Sometimes you just have to 'think outside the box.' You never know when your rich Uncle Sam will give you a reward for doing so." For more information on IDEA, call Ext. 2398. (Courtesy of Air Force Space Command News Service)

Civilians, spouses benefit from health insurance fair

Airman 1st Class Chawntain Young Public affairs

The civilian personnel flight hosts a free Health Benefits Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday at the community center.

"This fair is a great opportunity for civil service employees and their spouses to explore the variety of insurance carriers the Federal Employees Health Benefits program offers without the hassle of having to do research," said Charley Taggart, 14th

Mission Support Squadron CPF.

People interested in getting health insurance, changing carriers or obtaining additional coverage can pick up information pamphlets or talk to an insurance representative one-on-one, which provides them with up-to-date open season from Nov. 11 to Dec. 9. information before they make a decision.

Debbie Warner, 14th MSS CPF. "The benefit of this fair is it allows people to compare prices and make informed decisions before they commit."

Blue Cross and Blue Shield is one of the six different Ext. 2641.

health insurance carriers attending

People should call the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team to enroll in an FEHB program or change their current coverage at (800) 997-2378 during the

For more information about the FEHB program and "The cost of health care is steadily rising," said current plan rates, premiums and changes, log on to the Office of Personnel Management FEHB home page at www.opm.gov/insure/health/index.htm. For more information about the Health Benefits Fair, call Taggart at



Flu shots

Christina Spanier gets her influenza shot from Tech. Sgt. Kathy Stansberry. 14th Medical Operations Squadron immunizations NCOIC. The shot is offered from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. Immunizations closes at 2 p.m. Thursdays for training

CFC midpoint contact goal no match for Columbus AFB

Senior Airman Amanda Mills Public affairs

Columbus AFB was well ahead of its midpoint contact goal as the Combined Federal Campaign hit its halfway point so far.

"The midpoint goal is 50 percent, and we're at 69 percent," said Capt. Kristin Shapleigh, 14th Comptroller Flight, the wing point of contact for CFC.

The campaign goal is to contact 100 percent of base people by the end of the

to contribute," Shapleigh said. "Our goal is to contact everyone to educate them on the benefits of CFC and how the program works."

According to Staff Sgt. Michael Nichols, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron fire protection crew chief, about 30 people at the fire department have donated

"It [donating to the CFC] just makes you feel good that you can give back to the community and others," Nichols

The combined federal campaign makes it possible for military and civilians to give to any of 1,300 local, national and international charitable "This gives everyone an opportunity organizations. The drive ends Nov. 15.

For more information or to donate, call a unit representative or Shapleigh at Ext. 2711.

48th (Continued from Page 1)

Both aircraft took off at separate times, one simulating a tanker aircraft and the other a cargo aircraft, meeting up 300 miles away from Columbus AFB to simulate air-to-air refueling. Then the aircraft descended as a two-ship formation to 500 feet above the ground to simulate dropping cargo and troops at a target. They hit the target within seconds of the established time, preset two and a half hours earlier.

"The mission was a great example of how airpower has changed in the last 60 years since they flew," said 1st Lt. Nate Campbell, 48th FTS Reunion coordinator.

"It was so much more simple when I flew — it took less time and was less detailed," Onesty said.

"I'm so impressed to see for the last 20 years, members of the 48th have gone out of their way from around the country to be together — that is a rare type of camaraderie," Campbell said.

After a 48th Squadron Association Reunion welcome at the Landmark Hotel in downtown Columbus, the members were treated to a first-hand experience of Columbus AFB's mission of "training the world's best pilots, leaders, and warriors," through tours, simulators and by watching Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 03-01 graduate.

"Seeing our boys in action makes us have real strong faith in our country's military," Yarwood said.



Tom Yarwood, 48th Squadron Association president, gets an airdrop training mission brief from Lt. Col. Sonic Johnson, 14th Operations Support Squadron wing airspace manager, before his flight in a T-1A Jayhawk.

48th Flying Training Squadron reflects on heritage

Lt. Col. Paul Judge 48th Flying Training Squadron

It has been 85 years since the 48th Flying Training Squadron was organized, and 60 years since the Disneydesigned Alleycat made its

debut on the squadron patch.

The reunion here at Columbus this week transcends generations and adjusts our perspectives on what we do every day.

I hope our service honors the depth and width of sacrifice made for America and freedom by these heroes and all those that have served. I am personally impressed with the constant humility each and every 48th FTS

association member displays. It is the finest quality that results from dedicated service and great personal sacrifice. They approach day-to-day conversations or interactions without judgment or shortness of temper and they know that everyone is important to the team and mission. What they possess through many unique experiences is something we must strive to learn or at least imitate. Everyone benefits if everyone contributes and understands how their service is connected to those that have gone before. As the reunion continues, it is interesting to know the history and where a squadron has been — here is the 48th run-down.

The 48th Aero Squadron was organized at Kelly Field, Texas, on Aug. 4, 1917, and sailed to Le Havre, France, arriving in November 1917. While in France, the unit built or repaired various airdromes and participated in the Lorraine, St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne campaigns.

Following World War I, the squadron returned to the United States and was demobilized at Mitchell Field, New York, in August 1919. The 48th School Squadron was again active, training aviation personnel between 1923 and 1927 at Kelly Field and between 1933 and 1936 at Chanute

The unit was reactivated at Hamilton Field, Calif., as the 48th Pursuit Squadron in January 1941, where it flew training missions and air defense patrols along the California coast using P-40, P-66 and P-43 aircraft. Designed by Walt Disney himself, the squadron patch depicting an alley cat chasing a dragonfly was adopted by the 48th in 1942. In August 1942, the redesignated 48th Fighter Squadron moved to Atcham, England, and began training operations with the P-38 Lightning.

See HISTORY, Page 5

Exposing carbon monoxide poison

Harold Nichols

14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department

Each year in America, carbon monoxide poisoning claims more than 200 lives and sends another 10,000 people to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

The United States Fire Administration and the National Association of Home Builders would like you to know that there are simple steps you can take to protect yourself from deadly carbon monoxide fumes.

Understanding the risk

What is carbon monoxide? It's an odorless, colorless and toxic gas. Because it is impossible to see, taste or smell the toxic fumes, carbon monoxide can kill you before you are aware it is in your home. At lower levels of exposure, it causes mild effects often mistaken for the flu. These symptoms include: headaches, dizziness, disorientation, nausea and fatigue. The effects of exposure can vary greatly from person to person depending on age, overall health and the

concentration and length of exposure.

Where does it come from? Carbon monoxide gas can come from several sources: gas-fired appliances, charcoal grills, motor vehicles or wood-burning furnaces or fireplaces.

Who's at risk? Everyone is at risk for carbon monoxide poisoning. Medical experts believe that unborn babies, infants, children, senior citizens and people with heart or lung problems are at even greater risk.

What actions do I take if my carbon monoxide alarm goes off? What you need to do depends on whether anyone is feeling ill or not. If no one is feeling ill, silence the alarm. Turn off all appliances and sources of combustion. Ventilate the house with fresh air by opening doors and windows. Call 911 to investigate the source of the possible carbon monoxide buildup. If illness is a factor, evacuate all occupants immediately. Determine how many occupants are ill and determine their symptoms.

See KILLER. Page 5

STRAIGHT TALK LINE

The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB a better place.

Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.

The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Messages may be answered in the Silver Wings without names.



Col. Steve Schmidt 14th Flying Training Wing

Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724.

Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.

SILVER WINGS

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Silver Wings Editorial Staff 14th FTW commander Col. Steve Schmidt

Chief, public affairs Pam Warnken

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Airman 1st Class Chawntain Young Airman Alexis Lloyd

Key phone numbers

| se Exchange | 434-6013 |
|--------------------------|----------|
| aplain | 434-2500 |
| il Engineer Service Desk | 434-2856 |
| ilian Personnel | 434-2635 |
| nic: | |
| amily Practice | 434-2172 |
| Appointment Desk | 434-2273 |
| After Hours Care | |
| umbus Club | 434-2489 |
| nmissary | 434-7106 |
| ance | |
| using Maintenance | 434-7270 |
| pector General | |
| ıal Office | 434-7030 |
| tary Equal Opportunity | 434-2591 |
| curity Forces | |
| oppette | 434-6026 |
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FEATURES . Oct. 25, 2002

Spring forward, fall back: Daylight-saving time

Airman Alexis Lloyd Public affairs

The time to move clocks back comes again at 2 a.m. Sunday.

Almost everyone knows the phrase, "Spring forward, fall back," to remember when to change their clocks for daylight-saving time.

"I like the time change because I can sleep in an extra hour," said Airman Jacob Rewerts, 14th Medical Operations Squadron.

Although many may think like this, there is a reason daylight-saving time is observed.

It was instituted in the United States not to observe daylight-saving time. during World War I in order to save

energy for war production by taking advantage of later daylight hours between April and October. During World War II, the federal government again required the states to observe the

time change. Between the wars and after WWII, states and communities allowed to

The Uniform Time Act of 1966 provided standardization of the beginning and ending dates of daylight-saving time in the United

States but allowed for local exemptions from its observance. The act stated that daylightsaving time begins on the last Sunday in April and ends on the last Sunday in October,

change to occur at 2 a.m. local time.

Today, about 70 countries observe daylight-saving time to conserve energy in lighting homes by taking advantage of the longer daylight hours.

"Daylight saving time helps us by reducing our energy needs by one hour for lighting that would have to be furnished by turning on a switch," said Tom Waller, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron energy manager and utility engineer. "Conserving energy ensures that we have affordable, reliable power for our lighting when we need it.'

So, don't forget the phrase and change the clocks back.

Halloween safety encouraged

Master Sgt. Patrick Bell

14th Security Forces Squadron

"Trick-or-Treat! Smell my feet, give me something good to eat!"

This ancient incantation has provided countless children with candy for many Halloweens. Many things have changed since people celebrated the first All Hallows Eve, but the need to keep safe

"Every year on Halloween many children suffer from auto accidents, fire injuries, falls, cuts, bruises and even poisoned treats," said Ted Zoska, 14th Flying Training Wing, ground safety manager.

Maintaining a safe and enjoyable evening for children is easy, Zoska said. Make sure they know the possible dangers they may encounter and how to avoid those dangers.

"Safety begins when you and your child choose a costume," he said.

Zoska recommends parents and children:

☐ Pick a costume that fits the child and will not hinder movement.

☐ Big, scary masks are fun to wear, but can pose a threat to children's safety. Use colorful facial makeup instead of masks to keep clear vision. Swords, knives and similar costume accessories

should be made of soft, flexible material.

- ☐ Pick a costume that is light in color, short enough to prevent tripping and is fire resistant.
- ☐ Costumes can be covered with reflective tape or glow spray so they reflect the beams of auto headlights and other lights.
- ☐ Carry a flashlight after dark.

"On the big night, set basic trick-or-treat guidelines for your children," Zoska said. "Younger children need an escort while older ones just need time and neighborhood restrictions. Warn all of them not to eat anything until you have inspected

Vehicle safety is important for both drivers and trick-or-treaters, said Master Sgt. Charles Manders, 14th Security Forces Squadron. People driving on Halloween night should slow down and be especially watchful. Remember, a large number of children may be wearing masks that restrict their vision; excited children do not look where they are going and may dart out into the street.

Children trick-or-treating should stay on the sidewalks and watch for cars when crossing the street. They should not enter the street between parked cars, Zoska added.

"We want to make sure everyone has a safe evening," Manders said.

HISTORY (Continued from Page 4)

In November 1942, the 48th moved to Algeria to support the invasion of North Africa and later operations over Sicily and Sardinia. While based in Algeria, the 48th flew escort missions for B-25 and B-26 bombers, made fighter sweeps and flew reconnaissance missions. In December 1942, the 48th moved to Triolo, Italy, and conducted fighter escort for heavy bombers on missions to central Europe, the Balkans and Germany and also provided close air support to allied armies pushing up the Italian peninsula. In August 1944, the unit moved temporarily to Aghione, Corsica, and engaged in patrol, dive-bombing and armed reconnaissance missions to support the allied invasion of southern France. Through May 1945, the squadron continued operations from Italy conducting bomber escort and attacks against transportation. oil, and communication targets. The squadron was deactivated in September 1945 at Lesina, Italy.

From November 1946 until October 1949, the 48th Fighter Squadron flew air defense missions from Dow Field, Maine, using P-47s and P-84s. The 48th Fighter Interceptor Squadron was activated at Langley AFB, Va., and flew F-84s, F-94s, F-102s, F-106s and F-15s from January 1953 until the squadron was deactivated in December 1991.

Activation of the 48th FTS on July 1, 1996, completed reunification of the squadrons in the World War II 14th Fighter Group, which included the 37th, 48th, 49th and 50th Squadrons, as the 14th Flying Training Wing. The 48th Flying Training Squadron now flies the T-1A Jayhawk for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus AFB, Miss., preparing future pilots to fly tanker and airlift aircraft.

KILLER (Continued from Page 4)

When relaying information to the 911 dispatcher, include the number of people feeling ill. Do not re-enter the home without the approval of a fire department representative. Call a qualified professional to repair the source of the carbon monoxide.

Protect vourself

All military family housing units have at least one Underwriters Laboratories

carbon monoxide alarm with an audible warning signal near the sleeping areas and outside individual bedrooms. The alarms measure carbon monoxide levels over time and are designed to sound an alarm before an average, healthy adult would experience symptoms.

It is very possible that you may not be experiencing symptoms when you hear the alarm. This doesn't mean that carbon

monoxide is not present. Have a qualified professional check all fuel-burning appliances, furnaces, venting and chimney systems at least once a year. Never use your range or oven to help heat your home and never use a charcoal grill in your home or garage. Never keep a car running in a garage. Even if the garage doors are open, normal circulation will not provide enough fresh air to

reliably prevent a dangerous carbon monoxide buildup. When purchasing an existing home, have a qualified technician evaluate the integrity of the heating and cooking systems, as well as the sealed spaces between the garage and

A carbon monoxide alarm in your home can save you and your family in the event of a buildup.



Human Chain for a Drug-Free Community Extravaganza Saturday at Freedom Park. More than 200 people attended the event.

Red Ribbon Week spurs involvement

Drug-free extravaganza appeals to youth, adults

Airman 1st Class Chawntain Young Public affairs

Despite the gloomy sky which threatened to pour down rain, 121 adults and children stood united in a "human chain" on the race track at Freedom Park during the Red Ribbon Week opening ceremony.

The human chain was just one of the many activities more than 200 people participated in Saturday.

From colonels to airmen, spouses to friends, their presence encouraged the vision of a drug-free community.

Companies and volunteers sponsored give-a-ways and operated games like

face painting, sack races and bowling, events that keep our children healthy, happy and "Drug Free-The Way to Be!"

"I think it's important for youths to be exposed to drug prevention — it will help them make responsible decisions," said Chris Clinton, 14th

Communications Squadron command

Red Ribbon Week began in 1986 after Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, U.S. Drug Enforcement agent, was brutally murdered while working undercover to expose key players of a Mexican drug ring. His family and friends began wearing red satin ribbons to honor his

The word of his sacrifice and his family and friends' ribbon-wearing movement soon spread to the

neighborhoods of parents who were fed up with the drug warlords who ruled their streets and influenced their

Last year, Columbus AFB introduced the "human chain" during the Red Ribbon Week opening ceremony. Fifty adults and children formed the "human chain" and about 150 people participated in the ceremony's

"I am very pleased with this year's turn out ... the support was wonderful." said Julie Jones, 14th Medical Operations Squadron demand reduction program manager. "I would like to express special thanks to all the volunteers and special guests for making this a unique and memorable event."



Senior Airman Nancy Cummings, 14th Security Forces Squadron patrolman, fingerprints Alex Funke, 8 years old.

U.S. Air Force photo

T-1A Jayhawk



Capt. Matthew Brown St. Petersburg, Fla. F-15C, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Jerry Biang Yucaipa, Calif. F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



Capt. Jeanette Moore Rosemount, Minn. KC-135, Scott AFB, III. (ANG)



2nd Lt. James Crum Phoenix, Ariz. T-6, Moody AFB, Ga.



Capt. Daniel Skoda Royal Oak, Mich KC-135, Topeka, Kan. (ANG)



2nd Lt. Ismael Del Valle Sanchez Carolina, Puerto Rico E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.

SUPT Class 03-01 earns silver wings

the right to be an Air Force pilot.

10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the theater.

The graduation speaker is retired Col. Martin Daack.

After earning his wings at Moody AFB, Ga., in September MOITAINA OF 1967, Daack was assigned as a B-52G co-pilot with the 62nd Bombardment Squadron at Barksdale AFB, La. He flew 45 Arc Light missions over Southeast Asia in the B-52D from Andersen AFB, Guam, and Utapao Royal Thai AFB, Thailand, from July through November 1969.

Students receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Capts. Matthew Brown, T-38, and Daniel Skoda, T-1A, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented 2nd Lts. James Crum, T-1A, and Jeffrey Rivers, T-38. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Brown and Skoda were named distinguished graduates.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine,

Nineteen officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning subsonic T-37 Tweet. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 03-01 graduates at formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

> Primary training takes about 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

> > After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker

> > > Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38 Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation.

Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours. The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a

multi-place business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and

simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 flying hours.

The class reunites on graduation day, when students receive the aeronautical rating of pilot and begin their careers as U.S. Air Force pilots.





1st Lt. Christopher Allred Summit. Miss. F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



1st Lt. Tomokazu Minami Hyogo, Japan F-15/F-2, JASDF



1st Lt. Jaron Roux Los Angeles, Calif. C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Kenneth Fann B-1, Dyess AFB, Texas



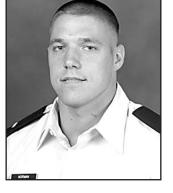
2nd Lt. Robert Garrison Tulsa, Okla. KC-135, Meridian, Miss. (ANG)



2nd Lt. Ryan Lindsay Kosciusko Miss C-5, Travis AFB, Calif.



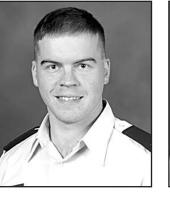
2nd Lt. Andreas Neuman New York, N.Y. KC-135, MacDill AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Jordan Norman Smyrna, Tenn. C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



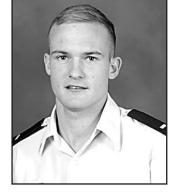
2nd Lt. Jeffrev Rivers Colorado Springs, Colo. F-15C, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. David Roller La Center, Wash. KC-135, Portland, Ore. (AFRC)



2nd Lt. Thomas Shearer Van Alstyne, Texas KC-135. Robins AFB. Ga.



2nd Lt. Richard Webb Shamong, N.J. B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Travis Winslow Northfield, Ohio F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.

SERVICES SNAPSHOTS COMMUNITY Silver Wings Oct. 25, 2002

AT THE CHAPEL

Chapel schedule Catholic

Sunday activities:

9:15 a.m. — Mass

10:30 a.m. — CCD 5 p.m. — Confessions

5:30 p.m. — Mass

Wednesday

11:30 a.m. — Mass

Protestant Sunday activities:

9 a.m. — Sunday school

10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship 1 p.m. — Contemporary worship

Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. — Video Bible study

supper 7:15 p.m. — Choir rehearsal

Thursdays

11:30 a.m. — Lunch Bible study For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext.

AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the base

"Spy Kids 2" (PG, action sequences and brief rude humor, 86

Starring Matt O'Leary.

Saturday

"Trapped" (R, violence, language, sexual content, 99 min.)

Starring Charlize Theron.

Nov. 1

"Swimfan" (PG-13, mature thematic elements, sexual content, disturbing images and language, 90 min.) Starring Jessie Bradford.

CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

Call 2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett for more information at Ext. 7065.

Due to technical difficulties, Channel 64 is currently unavailable to show announcements, Air Force Television News or College Level Examination Program tapes.

LIFE SKILLS SUPPORT



(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Ext.

Parenting for Prevention series: A video series is from 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday to help increase communication skills between the parent and child.

Call Lee Chouinard for specific dates and

Remote/deployed briefing: Military people who are going remote or being deployed must attend a mandatory briefing offered at 9 a.m. every Thursday. Call Tech. Sgt. Jamey Coleman.

New Air Force spouses: The Heart Link program's first meeting is from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nov. 4 at the chapel annex for people who have been an Air Force spouse for less than five years. This program is designed to help the spouse adjust to the military way of life. Volunteers are needed during this time to care for the children of the attendees. The care location is in the chapel annex, and parents are on site. Call Ext. 2316.

BASE **N**OTES



Thrift shop: The Columbus AFB Thrift Shop is open from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays. For more information, call 434-2954.

Commissioning briefing: A mass commissioning briefing to learn how to turn stripes into bars is from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday at the education center. Call Ext. 2562.

Customer service closed: The military personnel flight customer service section will be closed, except for emergencies, Nov. 4 to 6 for training on and installation of the Common Access Card hardware. Call Ext.

Officers spouses' social: The Columbus AFB Officers' Spouses' Club's social begins at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 12 at the Columbus Club. The menu is chef's salad for \$10 or peppercorn sirloin steak with baked potato for \$12.



Breast cancer awareness

Airman 1st Class Matrika Morgan, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Health and Wellness information manager, prepares goodie bags for cancer awareness month at the Whispering Pines Golf Course Saturday. The HAWC has disease informational pamphlets available at the center. Call Ext. 2477.

Columbus Club members receive a \$2 discount. New OSC members are welcome, and the deadline to sign up is noon Nov. 5. For reservations, call 434-5511 or email: davidjeastman@cableone.net.

Silent auction: The Columbus AFB Enlisted and Officers Spouses' Clubs holds a silent auction from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Nov. 8 at the Columbus Club.

An assortment of items donated by the Institution clubs and sponsors in the community are address "100 Years available, and the auction is open to all of Flight" at the ranks. For more information, call 434-8398. annual

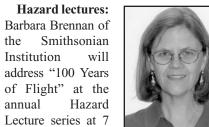
Do-it-yourself moves: A temporary duty do-it-yourself move is a move from the original permanent duty station to a TDY location and return to original station. It is not a TDY enroute in conjunction with a permanent change-of-station move. Local units are responsible for authorizing and appropriating funding for people wanting to do a TDY do-it-yourself move.

In accordance with AFI 24-501, The Air Force Do-It-Yourself Move program, people must receive a briefing from the traffic management office prior to entering into a DITY move in order to eliminate "after the fact" situations. Call Ext. 2688 or 2573.

Education Week: National Education Week is Nov. 18 to 22. Call Ext. 2563.

Name tags: Order forms for the new service dress coat name tags will be available online Dec. 1 at www.aafes.com. The wear employers are interviewing and accepting date has not been established.

Town



p.m. Monday at Heritage Academy, 625 Magnolia Lane in Columbus. Brennan is head of exhibitions and design at the National Air and Space Museum. The talk is free and the public is welcome. Call 327-5272.

Antique show: The 31st Antique Show and Sale is is Nov. 1 to 3 at the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus. People with \$50 worth of receipts from downtown businesses or the commissary get in free. The kickoff is at 8 p.m. Nov. 1 with Civil War-era music in Poindexter Hall at Mississippi University for Women. Visit www.historic-columbus.org/forum/schedule.html.

Golden Triangle Employment Expo: The expo is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 6 at the at the Trotter Convention Center. Recruiters for both local and national resumes. Call Ext. 2790.

Services: Check us out

center ballroom.

There are five \$75 games, one \$100 game and a \$500 progressive jackpot game with a consolation prize of \$50 if the jackpot does not go in 61 numbers or less. There's also a \$1,000 progressive jackpot with a consolation prize of \$100 if the jackpot does not go in 53 numbers or less.

Admission fees for nonmembers are \$5. Call Ext. 2489.

Enlisted lounge entertainment: Disc jockey Kool Kleve entertains from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. today. Call Ext. 2489.

Oktoberfest: Bring the whole family and a few friends to Freedom Park from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday for the Oktoberfest festivities featuring German food, beverages and traditional oompah music provided by the Die Mitternaechters. Activities include beverage races, various relay races, egg toss and a bouncy castle for the kids.

The youth center is closed during the day in support of the Oktoberfest activities, but it re-opens at 5 p.m.

Preschool story time: The library's preschool story time is offered at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. This 30-minute program is open to children ages 3 to 5. In November, the story time is Fridays. Call Ext. 2934.

Friday night dining: "The American Cafe" opens from 5 to 7 p.m. Nov. 1 at the Columbus Club. The cafe is open every Friday night. Menu entrees include, but are not limited to, grilled pork chops Omaha, chicken Monterey or charbroiled New York strip steak. Call Ext. 2489.

Teen bingo: Teen bingo is offered at the youth center at 8 p.m. Nov. 2 in the youth center game room. Cost is free for members and \$1 for nonmembers. Prizes awarded to bingo winners. Call Ext. 2504.

Professional basketball games: The information, ticket and travel office offers two trips to professional basketball games featuring the Memphis Grizzlies in Memphis, Tenn. Watch the Sacramento Kings play Nov. 2.

Cost is \$115 per person and includes lodging (double occupancy), ticket to the game and transportation. The next game is Nov. 29 against the Los Angeles Lakers. Cost is \$120 per person and includes lodging (double occupancy), ticket to the game and trans- ed when all hours are complete. Call Ext. portation.

All-ranks bingo: The club offers A \$50 deposit is required when registering. an all-ranks bingo program at Lodging is located within walking distance 6 p.m. Fridays in the community of Beale Street and the Pyramid. Call Ext.

> **✓ College football**: Watch college football games from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. every Saturday starting Nov. 2 at the Landing Lounge in the Columbus Club. All ranks are welcome. The grill is open and Disc Jockey Kool Kleve entertains from 7 to 11 p.m. for the disco

> Social hour is from noon to 1 p.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m. Call Ext. 2489

Family and teen talent contest: The contest is at 3 p.m. Nov. 2 at the youth center. Admission is free.

Artist craftsman contest: Entries are due Nov. 4 for this annual contest. Categories will be judged in two groups: adults and youth, ages 17 and

Categories include multicraft/pattern art, textile art, fine art and industrial art. Entry forms are available at the skills development center. Call Ext. 7836.

Passport to Adventure Promotion: The information, ticket and travel office offers a special promotion through March 31, where customers may register to win a cruise, airline tickets, rental car certificates and free hotel stays.

There are two ways to register — stop by the ITT office or visit the ITT Website at www.aftravelonline.com. Call Ext. 7858.

YES program: Dependents of active duty military who are freshmen or above and plan to attend college within one year after their high school graduation should register for the Youth Employment Skills program.

Participants may be employed at various locations around the base. They earn \$4 per hour, and dollars earned are held in an account until they enter college. Participants must enter college within one year after graduation. Call Ext. 2504.

✓ Congressional awards program: Anyone ages 14 to 23 may register for the Congressional awards program for volunteering.

Areas for volunteering include public service, personal development, exploration or fitness and expedition. A participant must complete several hours of volunteer service. As participants progress they will be awarded the bronze, silver and gold certificates/medals. The gold medal will be award-



Silver Wings Oct. 25, 2002

Check it out

Airman 1st Class Sheena Johnson, 14th Flying Training Wing command post, and Michael Coats, automotive specialist, check belts and fluid levels on Johnson's vehicle. The auto hobby shop performs a vehicle road inspection for \$5. Other services available are oil changes, tire rotation, air conditioning checks and more. Call Ext. 7842 for an appointment.

Regular volunteers needed: The youth center is recruiting for regular volunteers to serve as chaperones and to assist the staff with normal programming. Call Ext. 2504.

Colorado trip: A winner from the Air Education and Training Command will receive a trip to the Air Force Academy versus San Diego State football game Nov. 23. The winner receives distinguished seating for the game and attends the pre-game Blue and Gold Brunch.

Registration boxes for the football quest program are located in services locations. No purchase is necessary to participate and the last day to enter is Nov. 4. Call Ext. 2337.

Disc jockey club: The youth center is forming a disc jockey club. The first meeting is at 5 p.m. Nov. 8 at the youth center. Participants must attend this first meeting to participate in the program, Call Ext. 2504.

Electrified membership drive: Win the newest electronics by becoming a services member.

Prizes include a 32-inch Plasma television with Home Entertainment Systems, a 15-inch flat screen television with speaker system, portable DVD player, MP3 player and more. Pick up an application at any services facility and register by Dec. 20.

Current members are already entered to win. Call Ext. 2489.

Columbus Club **Lunch Buffet**

Served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost: \$7.95 Members receive a \$2 discount Price includes vegetable of the day, salad and tea

> **Today** Fried catfish Cube steak Cherry cobbler

Monday Fried chicken Sausage and peppers Peach cobbler

Tuesday Pork chops Chicken fried steak Banana pudding

Wednesday Spaghetti Fettuccini alfredo Apple cobbler

Thursday Cube steak Beef stir fry Banana pudding **SPORTS**

DynCorp dominates Security forces, 21-6

Flag football standings

The following are the intramural standings as of Wednesday.

Airman Alexis Lloyd

Public affairs

DynCorp broke down the 14th Security Forces Squadron's gate, 21-6, in intramural football action Monday.

"Our [defense] buckled down, great team defense, took care of business and won the game," said Robert Lampkin, DynCorp.

Security forces won the toss and elected to receive the kick off.

DvnCorp defense shut down the 14th SFS sacking the quarterback twice and forced them to punt.

DynCorp didn't stay on offense too long because 14th SFS intercepted the

DynCorp returned the favor with an interception of its own and ran 60 yards

ed the extra point, making the game 7-0.

The next series, 14th SFS was forced to turn the ball over to DynCorp.

The 14th SFS team was not discouraged as they intercepted a pass and

Teams

48th FTS

37th FTS

14th OSS

14th SFS

DynCorp

14th CES

14th MSS

14th COMM

whistle blew for half time.

Starting the second half with a 7-0 lead, DynCorp received a 35-vard kick off from 14th SFS.

They fought their way down the field, gained 20 yards. Their drive stopped 10 and then their quarterback tossed the ball

for a touchdown. The team also convert- yards shy of a touchdown by the time the for another touchdown. The team was unable to tack on an extra point, holding the game 13-0.

> Possession of the ball went to 14th SFS as they tried to catch up to DynCorp. They were held off when DynCorp intercepted a pass.

After a few turnovers, 14th SFS intercepted the ball from DynCorp and ran for a touchdown, bringing the score 13-6.

With only 1:17 left on the clock, DynCorp ran the ball for a 45-yard touchdown, putting them two touchdowns ahead of 14th SFS. DynCorp tried for and converted two extra points, winning the game, 21-6.

"[DynCorp] was the better team [Monday] and wanted the win more than

said Curtis Taylor, 14th SFS.

SHORTS

Volksmarch

A 10-kilometer volksmarch begins between 10 and 10:45 a.m. Saturday at Freedom Park as a part of Oktoberfest. It's not a race but a walking event that the whole family can do together. Each participant who completes the course receives a commemorative Volksmarch pin. Beverage stations are located throughout the course. Call Ext. 7858.

Fitness center family day

The fitness and sports center has a family fitness day Sunday. Children ages 5 and older are invited to the gymnasium area to play games while parents use the fitness cen-

The center provides activities to show the benefits of exercise to the children, as well as point out relevant safety issues. Children will be placed in age-appropriate groups with a staff member in charge. Sign up begins at 2 p.m. and ends at 6 p.m. Call Ext. 2772.

Traveling basketball team

Teens ages 13 to 18 can register for the youth center's traveling basketball team program. The first meeting is Nov. 1 at the center. Call Ext. 2504.

Skeet club membership drive

The skeet and trap range hosts an open house and membership drive with food and beverages from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 2 at the skeet range. The event is open to all ages, but parents must accompany ages 17 and younger. For more information, contact David Vipperman at Ext. 7678.

Wacky glo ball

The wacky glo ball 18-hole tournament starts at 4 p.m. **Tae Kwon Do** Nov. 2 at the Whispering Pines Golf Course.

Entry fee is \$20 for members and \$20 plus greens fees for Wacky golf starts at 4 p.m. with nine holes of golf. As soon Ext. 2504.

as it gets dark, players complete the last nine holes with the **Monthly bowling specials** glo-ball. Call Ext. 7932.

Youth basketball

Registration for youth basketball for ages 5 to 18 is open Ext. 2426. until Nov. 2 at the youth center.

The season is tentatively scheduled to start in November. The cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. Call Ext. 2504.

Racquetball tournament

Sign ups for this event are Nov. 4 through 12. The actual start date of the tournament will be announced based on the number of entrants. Call Ext. 2772.

A 1.5-mile walk or a 5K run begins at 11a.m. Nov. 8 at the fitness and sports center. Call Ext. 2772.

Basketball tournament

Registration for a basketball competition for ages 13 to 18 begins at 7 p.m. and the competition begins at 8 p.m. Nov. 8 at the youth center. Judges will be on hand to score moves. Awards will be given to first and second place winners. Call Ext. 2504.

After school bowling special

This special is from 3 to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Cost is \$1 per game and 50 cents for shoes. The last game must be completed by 5 p.m. to allow for league set-ups. Call

This class is offered from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday at the youth center. The cost is \$40 per month nonmembers. Cost covers golf, a glo ball and burgers. and students must be at least five years old to enroll. Call

Bowling specials are from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays for families and from 1 to 6 p.m. Sundays for bowlers.

Bowling is \$1.25 a game and shoe rental is 50 cents. Call

Thursday scrambles

The Thursday afternoon scramble begins at 4:45 p.m. at Whispering Pines Golf Course. Sign up by 4 p.m. each

The computer selects the teams. The entry fee is \$5 per person plus green fees for nonmembers.

People who want to get in shape but aren't sure how to use all the fitness and sports center's machines can schedule

The center shows the person how to find his or her target heart rate and to use all of the equipment. Classes are by appointment only. Call Ext. 2772.

Personal trainers

Personal trainers are available at the fitness and sports center to spice up a workout routine or help a person get more out of their workout. Call Ext. 2773.

Bowling standings

The following are the intramural Thursday leagues standings as of Oct. 17. Losses

| leams | Wins | Losses |
|----------|------|--------|
| Strokin | 44 | 12 |
| Misfits | 38 | 18 |
| 14th OSS | 28 | 28 |
| SFS #1 | 24 | 32 |
| 48th FTS | 20 | 36 |
| SFS #2 | 12 | 44 |
| | | |

Ladies golf tournament fills Whispering Pines greens



Airman Alexis Llovd Public affairs

The Whispering Pines Golf Course filled its greens with the first Michelob Ultra-Three Lady Scramble Saturday.

team from the Championship Flight included Christy West, Becky Swords and Loretta Pennington. The First Flight winning team included Peggy Cox, Debbi Kober and Linda Blakenev. Each team that participated received a gift bag, 18

The teams were separated into two flights. The winning

holes of golf, golf cart, ditty bag and dinner at the Columbus Club after the tournament.

"For my first golf tournament, I thought it was very well put together and geared to 'pamper' the ladies," said Rhonda Knipmeyer, scramble participant.

There were 51 ladies signed up for a total of 17 teams

"The tournament was a great success," said Rachel Kasic, 14th Services Division sponsorship coordinator. "Our only problem is how are we going to top what we did this year. The weather was awesome, the course was in great shape despite the lack of rain earlier in the year, the players were enthusiastic, play was very competitive and the show was phenomenal."

"This tournament was fantastic, due to all the volunteers that helped make it a huge success," said Ricky Magers, 14th Services Division golf pro. "I can't thank these people enough.

"I'd like to also thank our sponsors that helped make this event possible. They are Cash Distributing-Budweiser, Avon, Cable One, General Nutrition Center of Columbus and Starkville, Cellular South, Columbus AFB Federal Credit Union, Columbus Women's Clinic, Cross Golf Cars, DvnCorp, Express Oil Change, Green Oaks Golf Club, McRae's, Mitchell Automotive, Old Town Grill, Outdoor Gear, Pepsi, PJ's Bar-B-Que, Ruth's Women Apparel, Salon 417, Sonic, the Office Sports Bar and Columbus AFB Fire Station."

Notre Dame crushes Falcons' perfect season hopes, 21-14

John Van Winkle

16 Silver Wings Oct. 25, 2002 Silver Wings

Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The Air Force Academy Falcon's hopes for a perfect season were dashed Oct. 19 by the Notre Dame defense and running game.

"We knew coming in that Air Force is a heck of a football team," said Notre Dame head coach Tyrone Willingham.

"And walking out of this contest, we're not disappointed with what they brought to the table today," Willingham said. "We're just very fortunate that things went in our favor and we were able to prevail."

Most of Notre Dame's opponents use a strong passing game or a balanced offense mixing pass and run plays. Air Force brought in the nation's number one rushing offense, with an option-based running

attack that had averaged more than 338 yards per game.

"This was one of the most difficult assignments that any defense can have, going from a passing attack to an option attack," said Willingham. "You're never sure with the Falcons, when that offense can bust out or a responsibility could be

But Notre Dame's defenders made the important tackles on the outside, or forced the option attack inside, to where they had help from other pursuing defenders. That effort held Air Force to just 2.7 yards per

On the other side of the ball, Notre Dame averaged 6 yards per carry on the ground.

"In contrast to us, they always came up with second down and medium (vardage to go), or second down and short, and third line. The Falcons drove 83 yards on six

and short," said Air Force head coach Fisher DeBerry. "We always came up with second and long and third and long. And that's not the nature of our offense.

Air Force's defense put the first score on the board when defensive end Jon Hicks knocked the ball loose from Notre Dame quarterback Carlyle Holiday's grasp. Falcon linebacker Marchello Graddy scooped the ball up and ran it in untouched, thanks to a full defensive escort, for a 21-yard touch-

Notre Dame rebounded quickly, however, and scored on a 53-yard run by Holiday and an 18-yard run by sophomore Ryan Grant, to lead 14-7 at the half.

Air Force's option attack got back in gear in the second half after the Falcon defense recovered a fumble at the Air Force 16-yard

plays, and quarterback Chance Harridge took it the remaining yard to tie the game.

But a penalty after the extra point forced the Falcons kick off from their 20-yard line, and gave Notre Dame great field position, said DeBerry. Holiday soon led the Notre Dame offense to another score, to lead 21

Notre Dame's rushing game continued to control the clock on subsequent series, but didn't seal the win until making their 22nd first down in the game's final minute.

"There's no shame in losing to the No. team in the nation by only seven points, said DeBerry. "I am certainly proud of the way our football team fought. They never gave up. If they'll play that hard in the next five [games], then I don't think there's anybody on our schedule who we can't beat."